UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

-against-19 Cr. 734 (WHP)

Alexander Rivera, **ORDER**

Defendant,

WILLIAM H. PAULEY III, United States Senior District Judge:

Defendant Alexander Rivera seeks to proceed with a change of plea proceeding via video conference instead of a personal appearance in court. In view of the ongoing pandemic, video conferencing has been employed by judges in the Southern District of New York on numerous occasions. This Court finds that any further delay in this proceeding would result in serious harm to the interests of justice. Proceeding by video conference with a change of plea advances Mr. Rivera's case and furthers justice without undue delay. See § 15002 (b)(2) of the Coronavirus Air, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act.

During the change of plea proceeding, the magistrate judge should allocate the defendant on his consent to proceed via video conference as previously stated by his counsel.

Dated: August 31, 2020

New York, New York

SO ORDERED:

U.S.D.J.